

# *information*

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June 17, 2002  
02-13

## **US Army Corps of Engineers to investigate sites at former Camp Sibert**

**Mobile, Ala.** – Parsons, under contract to the U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville will be investigating several sites at the Former Camp Sibert in Etowah and Saint Clair Counties, Alabama. The work is scheduled to start mid-June 2002 and extend into September 2002. The sites to be investigated consist of areas where the U.S. Army trained with Chemical Warfare Materiel during World War II. These areas are now private property. Preliminary investigations at these sites indicated there may be some buried metal and other remnants of this training that should be assessed for potential impacts to the public and environment.

Activities will include clearing and mowing of brush to allow physical access, land surveying to denote the historic training areas, and preparing the sites for excavation and the collection of samples for laboratory analysis. The work involves digging up locations where there may be contaminated soil or material. Temporary Exclusion Zones (safety zones to limit public access) will be established at each of the sites to protect the public and site workers while the field investigation is actually underway. At most locations, these safety zones will extend only 50-meters from the excavation. At some locations, the safety zones may require temporary closure of public roads and residences or businesses may be evacuated for short periods of time. Arrangements have been made by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District to provide for access to properties and to protect the residents and business occupants during the investigation.

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On sites where roads cross safety zones, traffic will be interrupted only when actual digging or intrusive activity is taking place. Traffic may be blocked for up to 30 minutes at a time.

The following sections describe the sites to be investigated and the potential impacts to the public. The order in which the sites will be investigated has not yet been established.

**Sites 2A and 2B** – Located in Etowah County on Perman Lake Road. The area currently consists of mostly cow pasture and some wooded areas. About ½ day of work will require the temporary stoppage of traffic along Perman Lake Road. Control of the road will be maintained with manned roadblocks during the period required. The duration of intrusive work at this site will be approximately 2 weeks.

**Site 8** – This site is located in St. Clair County. The site consists of a large area of cow pasture as well as thick young growth woods and a single residence. The residents will be evacuated, for several days during a portion of the excavation work. The work at this site includes excavation of subsurface metal. In order to protect the public and businesses to the northwest, portable barricades will be used. No road closings will be required with the exception of portions of Duncan Farms Road leading to the site. The work is expected to require approximately 4 weeks.

**Site 9** – This site is located on the southeastern side of Steele Station. The site consists mostly of fenced pasture. The excavation and sampling at this site will not impact any roads or areas off of the properties being investigated. The intrusive work will take 2 to 3 days to complete.

**Site 13B** – This site is located on the south side of Steele Station Road. The area consists of open field with scattered large trees directly adjacent to the businesses. Some of the excavation will require periodic, short-term road closure or detouring of traffic from Steele Station Road

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during weekend days. Road guards will be used to stop traffic while excavating. In order to minimize the impact on businesses, some of the work will be conducted on Saturdays and Sundays. The work at this site is expected to take approximately one week.

**Site 14** – This site is located along Pleasant Valley Road. Work at this site will require evacuation of one residence for three days while excavating. Railroad traffic will be monitored during the intrusive work and work will stop if trains are passing. The work at this site is expected to take approximately 3 days.

During the field work, Parsons will maintain a site office at a leased property on Pine View Circle, just north of the Gadsden Airport.

If you have any questions, please contact Janet Shelby at (251)690-2505 or by email at [janet.s.shelby@sam.usace.army.mil](mailto:janet.s.shelby@sam.usace.army.mil).

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